

COUNTRY East Germany 25X1 Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000700650006-7 25X1TOPIC Finsterwalde AirfieldEVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 27 December 1952 to 21 January 1953 25X1DATE OBTAINED 4 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 27 December 1952, five boxcars with cement and five SS type cars with trunk wood, bound for Finsterwalde airfield, were observed at Seddin railroad station. The cars had been dispatched by the Soviet Occupation Forces.
2. No air activity was observed at Finsterwalde airfield between 1 and 11 January 1953. At 2 p.m. on 11 January, about 300 men removed snow and ice from the runway. Air activity was performed by jet bombers and a twin-engine plane with radial engines between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on 13 January. <sup>1</sup>
3. On 11 January, a local resident from Finsterwalde stated that Soviet units from Cottbus would be transferred to Finsterwalde by rail. On 12 January, furniture and billeting equipment were being unloaded from 12 boxcars at the intersection of the Geschwister Scholl Strasse and the spur track up to 15 January. The unloaded equipment was stored in the open and guarded by soldiers who wore black-bordered blue epaulets. Furniture and billeting equipment were being unloaded from five boxcars at the spur track along the Rosa Luxemburg Strasse on 14 January. Soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were also observed at this site.
4. The following observations were made at the Finsterwalde military post:  
Building 6: On 13 January, a worker said that the utility shop from building 7 was moved to building 6. <sup>15</sup> tailors had been dismissed.  
Building 7: On 16 January, a resident from Finsterwalde had to report at the Kreiskommandantur in Villa Thierack, building 7. Therefore, <sup>15</sup> the Kreiskommandantur had been moved from building 9 to building 7.  
Building 8: On 12 January, the Geschwister Scholl Strasse in line with building 8 was blocked by wooden gates and guarded by soldiers who wore black-bordered blue epaulets. Between 11 and 16 January, intensive vehicular traffic and many soldiers were observed. <sup>2</sup>

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6. Between 6 and 7 p.m. on 6 January, the obstacle lights on some smoke-stacks in the surrounding of the field were switched on. Three trucks [redacted] occupied by soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, were observed. Between 9:30 and 11 a.m. on 7 January, trucks [redacted] were observed at the field.<sup>3</sup> At 11:15 a.m., a column of 28 tank trucks with trailers moved on the road from Finsterwalde toward Luckau. The column was headed by one truck and the rear was brought up by two trucks. The latter two trucks [redacted] carried soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, headsteds, boards and mattresses. Four or five tank trucks [redacted]<sup>4</sup>

7. Between 16 and 21 January, no air activity was observed at the field. The former komendatura building on Schacksdorfer Strasse was occupied by air force soldiers who, according to a worker, had come from Cottbus. A sign-board with the inscription "komendatura" was observed on the Villa Thierack on 20 January. [redacted]

[redacted] Comment. During the reported period, the bomber regiment at Finsterwalde airfield performed only little air activity, probably because of bad weather.

[redacted] Comment. The unloading of billeting equipment on 12 and 14 January and the change of occupation in the Soviet-occupied buildings in Finsterwalde are connected with the transfer from Cottbus to Finsterwalde of the supply unit of the bomber corps of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. [redacted]

[redacted]. The individual objects are apparently occupied as follows:

- Object 1: Bomber corps headquarters
- Object 2: Messhall and motion picture theater
- Object 3: Quartering facility for members of the bomber corps headquarters
- Object 4: Hospital
- Object 5: Motor vehicle repair shop
- Object 6: Main warehouse and utility shop
- Object 7: Villa Thierack, occupied by komendatura
- Object 8: Supply unit of bomber corps of Twenty-Fourth Air Army
- Object 9: Probably also occupied by supply unit of bomber corps

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SECRET [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED]

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25X1 [REDACTED] Comment. The information that the tank truck column proceeded on the Finsterwalde-Luckau road toward Luckau on 7 January indicates that the vehicles moved toward Brand airfield; the shipment may be connected with the transfer of a bomber regiment to Brand which took place at the same time.

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